

CATHETER WITH ATTACHED FLEXIBLE SIDE SHEATH

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method of positioning a main stent at a vessel bifurcation such that a side opening in the main stent is positioned at the ostium of a branch vessel, comprising: positioning a main guidewire in the main vessel such that a distal end of the main guidewire extends past the bifurcation; advancing a stent delivery system to a position proximate the bifurcation, the stent delivery system comprising a catheter with a flexible side sheath
10 attached thereto, wherein the catheter is received over the main guidewire, and wherein the main stent is positioned over the catheter with the flexible side sheath positioned to pass through the interior of the main stent and out of the side opening in the main stent; advancing a branch guidewire through the flexible side sheath attached to the catheter and into the branch vessel; and subsequently, advancing the catheter over the main guidewire while
15 advancing the flexible side sheath over the branch guidewire while viewing relative movement of a marker positioned on the flexible side sheath with respect to at least one marker positioned on the catheter, wherein the relative movement indicates that a portion of the flexible side sheath adjacent the side opening in the main stent is advancing into the ostium of the branch vessel, thereby indicating the position of the side opening of the main
20 stent with respect to the ostium of the branch vessel.

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